

Jordan Times

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جوردان تيمز يومية سيرة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الراي"

ter proposes big budget cut

TON, March 14 (R) — President Carter today proposed a 10 per cent cut in government spending in 1981 and an oil import fee of \$4.62 a barrel as part of a new plan to slow down inflation. The president also approved in certain types of consumer credit and on money market funds, most of which now pay high rates of interest as low as \$1,000. The White House said the oil import fee would raise petrol prices at the pump by 10 cents a gallon. Mr. Carter's programme would mean higher interest rates at first, but has the ultimate goal of cutting inflation running at an annual rate of 18 per cent. "This situation calls for urgent measures," the president said in his anti-inflation programme to an audience including members of Congress and his cabinet in the White House East

Shah hospitalised in Panama City

PANAMA CITY, March 14 (AP) — Iran's deposed Shah was hospitalised today for treatment and possible surgery to remove an enlarged spleen. The Shah was admitted to Paitill Hospital immediately after his arrival from his Contadora island retreat. The Shah was accompanied by his wife, Farah, aides and security agents. Dozens of security agents were deployed inside and around the clinic, where a whole floor was emptied and reserved for the Shah in the maternity ward. The Shah is suffering from an enlarged spleen possibly associated with a tumour, and his last medical check-ups showed he also suffered from anaemia and other serious blood disorders. A team of United States doctors headed by Dr. Michael DeBakey, the surgeon famous for his heart transplants, was due in later in the day. A spokesman for Dr. DeBakey said earlier the team will first check the Shah's condition to determine if the spleen will have to be removed.

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Regional Briefs

March 14 (R)—Kuwait today denied a report that its Prime Minister Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, cancelled a meeting with the Office Minister Douglas Hurd because he refused the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Deputy Foreign Minister Abdul Aziz Hussein told the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Naba that the meeting was cancelled. The leftist Lebanese As Saif said yesterday that the meeting was cancelled after a meeting with Mr. Hurd after the British minister recognised the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, agreeing only that the Palestinians had self-determination. As Saif added that as a result of refusal to issue a joint statement was issued after his visit to Jordan on Thursday. Mr. Hussein said the two sides agreed to publish their views on the Palestinian question.

March 14 (R)—Iraq has blacklisted 25 firms and 12 individuals because of their dealing with Israel, the Agency reported today. It said the boycott affected firms and individuals in Britain, Singapore, the Netherlands, Hong Kong, Belgium, Japan, India, Cyprus, Italy, Greece, and West Germany. Ban has been lifted on eight firms and shops of different nationalities after they stopped dealing with Israel, it added.

March 14 (AP)—Sudanese president Jaafar Nimeiri starts a six-day visit to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar, the official Sudanese News Agency reported today. Mr. Nimeiri and the leaders of the three countries are expected to discuss the current situation in the Sudan, as well as financial aid to Sudan.

March 14 (R)—The rulers of Abu Dhabi and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) agreed to put half their oil revenues into the federation's fund, and to set up a UAE central bank, the Abu Dhabi said today. The agreement ended a major split over oil revenues and marked an important strengthening of the two emirates. Disagreements between the two rulers, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan of Abu Dhabi and Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahayan of Dubai over the budget, bank, and towards greater integration of the seven emirates government crisis last year. Today's statement by the rulers gave no figures for the two states' budget contribution. The UAE earns more than \$50 million a day from oil. Abu Dhabi produces about 80 per cent of the oil in the north-east.

March 14 (Agencies)—Iran would rather burn its oil fields than sell it to Moscow at the price offered by Soviet officials in stalled talks, Oil Minister Ali Akbar Moftari said today. "We have agreed to continue negotiations with the Soviet government, but we are determined to burn our oil fields at such a very low price," he said after the ruling Iranian Revolutionary Council last night. The council was not mentioned in the report, but Iran is demanding a five-fold price increase from the Soviets. The talks have been "suspended because the price offered by us is about 30 to 40 per cent higher than that of the Soviet side."

March 14 (R)—A young Israeli army conscript, who served in the occupied Arab West Bank of Jordan, was today being sentenced by a military court to a 35-day jail term. Mr. Dan Amir, 18, agreed in court to serve his term and was immediately shipped off to the West Bank. Mr. Amir, whose father was a top official in the Communist Party, was one of a group of high school students who had been declared publicly that although they were ready to serve in the national service, they were unwilling to occupy territories.

Romania 'implicitly' condemns Afghan intervention

EST, March 14 (R)—A Warsaw Pact statement today implicitly condemned Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and called for a negotiated settlement. The statement, following a meeting by British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, expressed deep concern at the deterioration of the international situation "as a result of policies based on force and violation of national independence...and disregard for the rights of nations to live in freedom". Britain and Romania "agree on the urgent need to halt the deterioration in world affairs, to settle international crises and to resume the policy of détente throughout the world to the benefit of all", the statement said.



Afghan Minister Shah Mohammad Dost (right) seen shortly after his arrival in Moscow Thursday to be welcomed by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, (left) (AP wirephoto)



A Polish Ilyushin 62 jet, on a scheduled flight from New York to Warsaw, crashed Friday during approach to Okecie airport near the Polish capital, killing all 77 passengers and 10 crew members aboard (See page 6)

In another air incident Friday, a U.S. Air Force C-130 transport plane crashed near the eastern Turkish city of Adana, killing all 18 persons aboard, including six crew members. U.S. embassy officials in Ankara said the plane had taken off from the strategic NATO airbase at Incirlik, near Adana, Friday morning on a flight to the

eastern cities of Erzurum and Diyarbakir. It went down in a mountainous area over Taurus, southwest of Adana, on its return flight to Incirlik. They added that radio contact with the aircraft was lost at 19:05 local time (1205 GMT). Officials said all aboard the plane were believed to be military personnel. They declined to release any information on the identities of the victims pending notification of next of kin. The four-engine turboprop C-130s are used as logistical support aircraft, carrying military personnel, supplies and mail between bases. (AP wirephoto)

Pro-clergy coalition leads Iran's parliament election

TEHRAN, March 14 (R) — A coalition dominated by the pro-clergy Islamic Republican Party (IRP) emerged as the most organised force in first round parliamentary elections in Iran today. But it drew charges it was manipulating the poll. While many voters were opting for the best-known personalities from a variety of different and often opposing lists, the Islamic coalition was alleged to be writing in its own nominees on the ballots of illiterates. The Progressive Muslim Jama Party said in a statement: "In the southern part of Tehran the elections were manipulated by the supporters of the so-called grand coalition. We have had complaints from 20 polls that some (revolutionary) committees issued letters to their members, authorising them to vote for the illiterates."

An interior ministry statement echoed the charge and advised officials that the grand coalition list of 30 candidates for Tehran was being presented to voters at polling stations. This is contrary to rules for today's poll, the first of two rounds of voting to elect a 270-seat parliament. In Tehran, voters faced the daunting task of picking 30 representatives from a possible 433. In the provinces the choice was much smaller, with voters being required to pick only one or two candidates from a handful of names.

The parliament is likely to begin its work around May 21 and one of the first items on its agenda will be the fate of the 49 American hostages held at the U.S. embassy here.

A list of candidates specifically committed to supporting the policies of President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr appeared to be polling few votes today, largely because most of them were little known to the public.

But many of the well-known names who figured on ballots cast in today's round would be expected to support him in parliament and back his opposition to the continued detention of the hostages, political sources said. Only those candidates who poll more than 50 per cent of the votes cast in their district will be elected

today. Runners-up will go forward to a second round in about three weeks time.

First round results are not expected before next Thursday, election officials said.

Voting appeared to be going smoothly in most provinces, where political sources said they expected large support for Islamic candidates.

But in Kurdistan voting was suspended in the town of Saqqez, Narivan and Baneh and banned in Sanandaj because of the alleged presence of armed men in the region.

In the Kurdish town of Mahabad, informed sources reported almost unanimous support for the candidate of the pro-autonomy Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) with other votes going to left-wing candidates. There was a widespread boycott in the northeastern Turkoman region where four candidates of the ethnic minority were killed in regional violence last month.

In Tehran a bomb blasted the offices of the daily newspaper Bamdad today, newspaper sources said. There were no casualties. The secular daily has come under fire from Islamic groups in recent months and was accused by students occupying the U.S. embassy of having maintained contacts with American officials.

Second Camp David-style summit needed, says Yadin

LONDON, March 14 (R) — Israeli Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin today said that he believed a second Camp David-style summit conference would be necessary to clinch Palestinian autonomy talks between Israel and Egypt.

And he predicted broad agreement would be reached — although he said there would probably be crises along the way — because a deal was genuinely sought by Israel, Egypt and the United States.

Professor Yadin, ending a brief visit to London, said: "According to my thinking," he told reporters, "these present talks are having some progress, but I don't think they will terminate before another summit, Camp David style, because basic differences will remain at this level of negotiations."

The Camp David peace agreement of September, 1978, set May 26 as a deadline for a Palestinian autonomy accord between Israel and Egypt.

"A summit might lead to a solution, if not to the whole Palestinian question, then of a settlement agreement with Egypt."

But Professor Yadin cautioned his optimism would be endangered by what he called outside interference. He said he had stressed this point to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher during 45 minutes of talks on Wednesday.

He said the main points he put to Mrs. Thatcher were that there was no stalemate in current Egyptian-Israeli discussions on Palestinian autonomy and that "any interference from the outside makes it difficult not only for us but for the Egyptians."

"If Europe and the United States interfere I think it's damaging, counter productive at this stage," he declared.

Professor Yadin said Israel was concerned by West European moves in support of Palestinian self-determination.

A French call for self-determination has been backed by several European Economic Community (EEC) countries, including Britain and West Germany.

France denies any plans for Paris visit by Arafat

PARIS, March 14 (Agencies) — There are no plans for a visit to France by Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat, French foreign ministry sources indicated here today.

The sources, answering questions on a statement by a top PLO official in Beirut today that Mr. Arafat will visit France soon, referred newsmen to a statement on the subject last night by French Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet.

Mr. Francois-Poncet told the senate foreign affairs committee: "There is no project for a visit to Paris by Mr. Arafat. Such a project could only be envisaged within the framework of a significant progress in the peace process."

Informed sources here said in the past that the progress referred to by France would have to be some sort of implicit recognition of Israel by the PLO or, barring that, a withdrawal of PLO forces from the Israel-Lebanon border area.

The official in Beirut, PLO political chief Farouk Kaddoumi, told the newspaper An-Nahar that the French side had indicated Mr. Arafat's visit to France would take place as soon as possible.

Mr. Francois-Poncet's statements were in answer to questions by pro-Israel members of the senate, uneasy at President Valery Giscard d'Estaing's calls during a recent Middle East tour for PLO participation should there be peace talks.

"The existence of Israel within its 1967 borders is a fundamental principle for France and there is no question whatsoever of challenging it," Mr. Francois-Poncet said.

The French minister said the right for Palestinian self-determination also called for by Mr. Giscard d'Estaing during his Middle East tour only concerned territories occupied by Israel during the June 1967 Middle East war.

This point appeared to be in answer to criticism levelled here that the French president's statements were vague enough to be construed as also calling for self-determination by the close to 600,000 Palestinian Arabs living within Israel's 1967 borders. Mr. Kaddoumi was quoted as saying that talks have taken place in Paris and Beirut on the proposed visit, which would be Mr. Arafat's first to a member-state of the European Economic Community (EEC).

He told An-Nahar that the timing depended on France, but added: "All statements issued so far by the French side indicate that this visit will take place as soon as possible."

Mr. Kaddoumi said the two sides had not yet agreed on certain matters "including the proposed joint statement which touched on questions regarding further consideration".

He did not elaborate, but informed sources in Beirut said they believed the French had not decided how far to go in supporting the PLO's position.

Mr. Kaddoumi was also asked by An-Nahar about a British move to amend United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, which has formed the basis for Middle East peace talks, to include a reference to the Palestinians' right to self-determination. He said: "First of all, we stand with every move that will push the Palestinian question forward. This does not mean, however, that we fully agree on the draft plan for revising Resolution 242."

"We demand the drawing up of a completely separate resolution from 242 that would stress the national rights of the Palestinian people."

At present, Resolution 242 refers to the Palestinians as a refugee problem.

Mr. Kaddoumi said the United States needs a bolder President than Jimmy Carter to defy America's Jewish lobby and formulate an even-handed policy on the Middle East conflict.

"Carter seldom makes up his mind. He is in the habit of making a decision and then retracting it," he said.

He cited as the latest example President Carter's disavowal of the recent U.S. vote at the U.N. Security Council against Israeli

settlements in the occupied West Bank of Jordan. "Such decisions need a bolder president who can come to grips with the crux of the problem without fear," Mr. Kaddoumi said.

"America's current policy is weak."

He said Mr. Carter's disavowal of the settlement vote was prompted by "pressures from the Jewish lobby. There is no question of factions within the American administration."

There is a possibility that he would shortly visit Paris for such talks and clear the way for Mr. Arafat's visit, Mr. Kaddoumi added.

In Bonn, a close adviser to West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt said in an interview published today, West Germany will not follow Austria in recognising the PLO.

Bonn did not recognise organisations, only states. Social Democrat politician Hans Juergen Wischnewski told the Schwarzwald Bote newspaper. But the PLO was a factor no one could bypass, he added.

The nine Common Market states would step up their efforts to bring a lasting peace in the Middle East and would press for self-determination for the Palestinians, Mr. Wischnewski said.

Israel protests Austria's recognition of PLO envoy

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 14 (Agencies)—Israel strongly protested to Austria today for granting a special diplomatic status to the Palestine Liberation Organisation representative in Vienna, a foreign ministry spokesman said.

A note of protest handed by the foreign ministry to the Austrian charge d'affaires read: "Austria again sided with an organisation whose hands are stained with blood and which openly declared its intention to destroy Israel."

The ministry said: "By ignoring the fate of the Jewish people in Europe during the second world war and by siding with an organisation aiming at the destruction of Israel, Austria has taken upon itself a great political and moral responsibility."

Yesterday neutral Austria granted official status to a PLO envoy in a move described as "a new form of diplomatic recognition." It provided further impetus for a West European policy shift in favour of the PLO as French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing has also voiced support for Palestinian self-determination.

In Vienna, Israeli Ambassador Yissakhar Ben Yaacov handed in the same protest at the foreign ministry.

"One has the impression that moral principles have slipped into the background in favour of more oil," he later told reporters. Israel, he said, would step up its public relations efforts, especially in Europe, as a pro-PLO trend could be seen in other countries as well as Austria.

While Israel's ambassador in Vienna explained his country's position to newsmen, Dr. Ghazi Hussein, the PLO representative in Austria who is now a quasi "ambassador" made his views

known through a telex message. He said Israel under the pretence that the PLO wanted to destroy it, constantly practiced methods of invasion, occupation and expulsion and endangered the existence of the Palestinian people.

"It is impossible to condemn the crimes committed on Jews and on the other hand to agree with the injustice committed on the Palestinian people," he said.

The government's decision to recognise the PLO also led to internal quarrels as both Austrian opposition parties complained about it.

Mr. Ludwig Steiner, the foreign policy spokesman of the opposition People's Party, called on the government to clarify what relations Austria now really had with the PLO.

He said while Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr considered it merely a recognition that the Palestinian people existed, Chancellor Bruno Kreisky had spoken of a new form of diplomatic recognition.

Assad appoints new governor for Aleppo

DAMASCUS, March 14 (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad today appointed Mr. Mohammad Nihad Al Qadi governor for Aleppo, replacing Mr. Hussein Barah, an official announcement said.

Mr. Qadi, 46, is a career judge and has occupied several judicial posts during the last twenty years.

His appointment to this delicate post is regarded here as a fresh bid by Syria to deal with anti-government violence in the northern city.

U.S. senate to probe mixup over U.N. settlements vote

WASHINGTON, March 14 (R) — U.S. support of a United Nations resolution condemning Israeli settlements policy, later disavowed by President Carter, will be investigated at a senate hearing next Thursday, it was announced last night.

The senate foreign relations committee announcement said Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, U.N. Ambassador Donald McHenry and Mr. Harold Saunders, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, will be questioned.

The public hearing will focus embarrassing new attention on the March 1 vote mixup, said by the administration to be the result of a failure of communication.

The vote was bitterly criticised by members of the house of rep-

resentatives foreign affairs committee yesterday when three members of congress presented a resolution seeking related state department documents.

The state department, citing executive privilege, declined to provide the documents, saying they related to sensitive consultations in the conduct of foreign relations.

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Responsible Editor:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor:
WILLIAM F. LEE

Managing Editor:
JENAB TUTUNJI

Board of Directors:
JUMA' HAMMAD
RAJA ELISSA
MOHAMMAD AMAD
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Senior Editor:
MAA' D. SHUKAYR

Editorial and advertising offices:
JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 67171-2-3-4

Tlx. 21497 Al Rai JO

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Austrian Vice-chancellor Androsch announces agreement on Austro-Jordanian cooperation

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, March 14 — Agreement has been reached that an Austrian company will provide equipment for potash production in Jordan, the Austrian vice-chancellor and minister of finance, Dr. Hannes Androsch, announced here today.

He was speaking at an airport press conference at the end of a four-day visit to Jordan before returning to Vienna.

The main purpose of his visit, he said, was to explore areas "that have not been touched" previously in Austro-Jordanian trade relations. Contacts he made here, he said, will be followed up soon at expert level, particularly in "credit-line financing of projects

within a project-by-project framework."

Dr. Androsch said that his visit had underlined the good political relations between Austria and Jordan and that trade relations had been deepened within the framework of these improved good relations.

Asked whether any agreement on joint ventures had been reached, Dr. Androsch said: "It is

easy to agree on the general terms for joint ventures, but it is more difficult to agree on operational terms."

He said that a small working group of experts from both sides had been formed to discuss the possibility further. "It is the politicians' job to bring the right people together," he added.

While here, Dr. Androsch met with a number of Jordanian officials—among them Minister of Supply Jawad Anani, Minister of Trade and Industry Ali Nsour and the president of the National Planning Council, Dr. Hanna Odeh—to discuss the possibility of Austrian contributions to Jordanian development projects.

As a result of his talks, he said, he felt "Austria can participate in water supply and irrigation projects in the Jordan Valley."

Also discussed was setting up a television production centre in Amman and establishing tyre and cable factories, as well as co-operation in aviation and the marketing of Jordanian exports, such as potash, phosphates and chemical fertilisers, in Austria.

Asked about the Austrian government's announcement yesterday that it was granting official status to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representative in Vienna, Dr. Androsch said that what he called "a special form of recognition" had been "under development for some time."

It had started, he added, in 1974 when Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky said in an address to the



Austrian Vice-chancellor and Finance Minister Hannes Androsch speaks with reporters before leaving Jordan

Austria to lend APC \$30m for potash project



APC Director General Ali Khasawneh (second from right) speaks with Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky (right) in Vienna

AMMAN, March 14 (JT)—The Austrian government is to provide a \$30 million loan on easy terms to the Arab Potash Company (APC) for the company's Dead Sea project, in which an Austrian firm is one of the main contractors.

This was announced here today by APC Director General Ali Khasawneh on his return from Vienna, where he met Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and other senior officials.

Mr. Khasawneh said the loan, carrying an interest of 6.5 per cent, would be repaid in 18 instalments beginning after the potash project reaches full capacity—

city—which is now expected to be in 1983.

Mr. Khasawneh concluded the loan agreement with the Austrian

government following talks with a number of officials in Vienna. The talks, he said, covered the potash project at the southern tip of the Dead Sea and means of promoting economic co-operation between Austria and Jordan. In his talks with Chancellor Kreisky, the two sides reviewed the progress of the potash project and co-operation in this field between Jordan and Austria. The chancellor had promised to give APC all help and support, Mr. Khasawneh said.

During his three-day visit to Vienna, Mr. Khasawneh signed a contract with the Austrian company Voest Alpine to construct the potash processing refinery at the Dead Sea site. APC has already contracted 20 international companies to supply machinery for the project at a cost of \$50 million.

Jerusalem Committee thanks Vatican, OAU, Security Council

AMMAN, March 14 (JNA) — The Jerusalem Committee, of the Islamic Conference Organisation, which has just concluded its meet-

ing in Morocco, expressed appreciation of the Vatican's refusal to recognise Israel's annexation of the city of Jerusalem, and expressed its gratitude to the Organisation of African Unity for its attitude towards the Palestine problem and to U.N. Security Council members for their recent vote on Israeli settlements. Minister of State for foreign affairs Marwan Al Qasem said here this evening.

Speaking upon returning from the meeting, Mr. Qasem said the committee decided to consider any military, financial or economic aid to Israel as an encouragement for it to persist with its aggressive policy against the Arab nation. The committee appealed to the leaders of Islamic nations to adopt a firm attitude and sever diplomatic relations with any country which transfers its embassy to Jerusalem or recognises Israel's annexation of the Arab city, the minister said.

During its two-day meeting, he said, the committee also discussed plans aimed at liberating the Holy City and the occupied Arab territories, endorsed an information plan on Jerusalem prepared by the Arab League secretariat and decided that a special conference should be held in Paris this year to inform the European public about the Jerusalem issue.

The Jordanian delegation, Mr. Qasem said, presented a working paper to the committee outlining Jordan's efforts to publicise the Jerusalem question and the Israeli settlements.

Arab states to present resolution at ILO meeting

AMMAN, March 14 (JNA) — The Arab labour conference which has just ended in Baghdad decided to present a resolution on Israel's violations of Arab labourers' liberties in the occupied Arab territories at the International Labour Organisation (ILO) conference which will be held in Geneva in June. Minister of Labour Omar Nabulsi said today.

Speaking upon returning from the meeting, Mr. Nabulsi said the Arab states will explain to the ILO conference Israel's arbitrary measures against Arab labourers,

its establishment of settlements on Arab lands and Israel's recent decision to seize the Jerusalem District Electricity Company.

During the Baghdad conference Mr. Nabulsi made a speech explaining Jordan's social security scheme and other programmes which benefit labourers in the country.

The conference discussed a number of subjects, including emigration of labourers, labourers' work conditions in the Arab World and the annual report of the Arab Labour Organisation.

Mayor Ajlouni tells of Amman road repair work



Mayor Isam Ajlouni

AMMAN, March 14 (JNA) — The Amman Municipality has taken temporary measures to deal with the poor condition of the city's streets following the recent snowstorm. Mayor Isam Ajlouni said yesterday.

Mr. Ajlouni said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency that all of Amman's streets will be re-asphalted in a two-phase municipality programme. He said 35 engineers have been appointed to work at two newly created departments of the municipality: the Department of Roads and the Department of Streets, to carry out the extensive programme.

Almost 90 per cent of the streets of Amman are below the required standard, and the municipality will be busy overhauling nearly two million square metres, he said.

The mayor stressed that new materials will be used in re-asphalting the roads and drains will be opened to drain away rain water, which normally damages the roads. The work, he said, will be carried out in cooperation with the Amman Water and Sewerage Authority, foreign road experts and local firms.

The holes in the streets are now being rapidly patched up to facilitate the flow of traffic, but this is a temporary measure, the mayor said. In addition the municipality has plans for opening new roads in the capital, he added.

The mayor warned that the municipality will now on take drastic measures against firms that open roads for construction projects and leave them in bad shape.

Islamic Bank discusses relief funds

AMMAN, March 14 (JNA) — The board of the Islamic Development Bank has discussed allocating special funds for relief operations in case of natural disasters affecting the bank's member states. Minister of Finance Salem Masa'deh said here today.

Speaking upon returning from the board's meeting in Jeddah, Mr. Masa'deh said the board also discussed means of increasing the bank's revenues by investing in projects in member states. It decided to accept four Islamic countries as members: The Gambia, Comoro Islands, Djibouti, and the Maldives Islands.

Most importantly, the board suspended Egypt's membership, Mr. Masa'deh said.

During his stay in Jeddah for the meeting, Mr. Masa'deh met with a number of Arab finance ministers to discuss their countries' contributions to Jordan's development projects. Taking part in the three-day meeting were representatives of 40 Islamic member states and financial organisations from the Islamic World.

Triumph and tragedy

IT IS sometimes startling to observe how out of touch with reality—and rationality—the Israelis really are. But there is evidence anew of their endemic irrationality in their reaction to Austria's *de facto* diplomatic recognition of the PLO observer in Vienna.

In its official protest over this really rather unstartling diplomatic formality, the Israeli foreign ministry reached what must be new depths in bad taste and bad manners by referring to "Austrian complicity in the Nazi murder of Jews during World War II." The latest move, the statement said, meant Austria had forsaken its "moral and political responsibility" to Israel.

While such loathsome allusions are really not deserving of comment in themselves, they do serve as useful reminders of one of the illusions about Israel which the Western world must soon rid itself of—namely the assumption that a Jewish state in Palestine is somehow part of that Western world's debt to the Jewish people for all their sufferings. The Israelis have successfully implanted this concept in the Western subconscious; as a result, they have for far too long been excused for the suffering which they themselves have inflicted on the native people of Palestine. As the Austrian move and other shifts in European thinking clearly indicate, the West is beginning to look more closely at who the true perpetrators of oppression and official terrorism in the Middle East really are.

Then we have Mr. Yigael Yadin, the Israeli deputy premier, characterising the Austrian chancellor, Dr. Kreisky, as a "tragedy for Israel." Again, note the use of emotionally laden terminology. Furthermore—and this is where the sense of unreality comes in—Mr. Yadin asserts that the principal concern of the "entire Middle East" at the moment is with the threat of "Soviet expansion." He may speak for Israel in that regard but there is absolutely no question but that the principal concern of the rest of the people of the Middle East, namely the Arabs, is with Israeli expansionism and not some more distant variety.

In making such characterisations of their position, the Israelis seek to portray themselves as the only aggrieved party. For decades, they have hidden behind this shield of sympathy to commit acts of systematic cruelty for which they have not been properly brought to account.

The time of special pleading is fast ending for Israel, and nothing is speeding this end more than the actions of the present Israeli government. Reality is fast overtaking the Israelis. The facts cannot be concealed forever behind base appeals to emotion.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: King Hussein's directives to the Press Association yesterday reflect the principles which the government is adopting in its dealings at various levels.

The spiritual values and the constructive role which journalists should assume, and towards which the King urged them, are bound to open new avenues for the press to participate in the development of the country.

King Hussein's directives should serve as a charter for the press and as guidelines for journalists who want to shoulder their national responsibilities and have their share in co-operation with the government in serving the public and contributing to the progress of the country.

AL DUSTOUR: The recent U.N. Security Council resolution demanding that Israel stop settling the occupied Arab territories has not deterred it from expropriating thousands of dunums of land north of Jerusalem belonging to Arab owners for more settlements. Israel's decision to confiscate more land, which coincided with the convening of the Islamic Conference Organisation's Jerusalem Committee in Morocco, is intended to obliterate the Arab character of Jerusalem.

The committee has called for an emergency meeting of the U.N. General Assembly to discuss the Palestinian and Jerusalem issues. Such a meeting should be preceded by a diplomatic campaign by Arab and Islamic nations to explain to the world the real situation in the Middle East.

The U.N. meeting itself should be made to pave the way for the issuance of a resolution imposing military and economic sanctions against Israel, and suspending its U.N. membership unless it complies with the will of the international community by withdrawing from the Arab territories and recognising the right of the Palestinians to self-determination.

The U.N. General Assembly meeting will be as futile as all previous ones if it is not coupled with serious action of this nature.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Concert and discussion

The French Cultural Centre presents a "musical encounter" with the prestigious Lyon Wind Quintet. They will play and discuss their music with any who care to join them at 6 p.m. at the centre.

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W. Germany to lend Jordan \$40m, give \$5m technical aid

AMMAN, March 14 (Agencies) — Jordan will get West German loans amounting to DM 70 million (about \$40 million) during 1980 and 1981, under an agreement signed here last night.

The major part of the loans will be spent on irrigation projects in the Jordan Valley and on financing the Industrial Development Bank.

Another DM 9 million (about \$5 million) will be extended as

technical aid to finance a number of surveys in the country, including plans for the Aqaba region planning preventing denudation in mountainous areas.

Under the agreement West Germany will also send experts here to assess the Jordanian projects and extend technical aid.

The signing of the agreement followed talks between the two sides which covered prospecting for shale in Jordan, protection of

the environment in the Ar Zarqa River and technical aid, especially with ties of engineering at the Jordanian universities.

Signing the agreement was the President-National Planning Council Hanna Odeh, and for West Germany Dr. Horst Moltrecht, director general in the German Economic Cooperation Ministry.

Signing the agreement for West German aid to Jordan are (left to right): Dr. Horst Moltrecht; Dr.

Hanna Odeh, president of the National Planning Council and Mr. Hassan Nabulsi, director of the Jordan Cooperatives Organisation.

Local News Briefs

AMMAN, March 14 (JT) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Kamel Sharif, returning to Amman after attending the Arab ministers of Awqaf meeting in Saudi Arabia, said this evening that the ministers adopted a number of recommendations connected with Afghanistan and the Islamic countries' attitude towards the Soviet intervention. Mr. Sharif did not elaborate on the recommendations, but said that a follow-up committee was formed to implement the recommendations and resolutions. During the meeting, the Jordanian delegation presented a working paper dealing with the status of mosques and religious shrines in the occupied Arab territories and proposals for supporting the steadfastness of the Arab inhabitants of those territories.

AMMAN, March 14 (JNA) — The Development Bank for Municipalities and Village Councils yesterday granted the village of Abu Alia, in the Amman governorate, a loan of JD 10,000. The money will be used to purchase land for constructing a local school.

AMMAN, March 14 (JNA) — The number of artesian wells opened in the past year around the country was 472 — a 19 per cent increase over the 1978 figure, according to a statistical bulletin released by the Statistics Department. It said water from these wells was used to irrigate a total of almost 94,000 dunums of land, an increase of five per cent over 1978 figures.

AMMAN, March 14 (JNA) — A delegation representing Jordan's veterinary association left for Baghdad today to attend a conference of Arab veterinarians which starts tomorrow. Among the subjects to be discussed at the meeting will be the new statute of the Federation of Arab Veterinarians now that their headquarters has been transferred from Cairo to Baghdad.

AQABA, March 14 (JT) — Police in Aqaba yesterday arrested a robber who had committed 10 robberies. He reportedly admitted to also stealing cars which he used to transport his thefts. According to a story in *Al Rai* one of the major thefts he committed was that of a minibus full of shoes.

هكذا عن العالم

Damas-Scene

compiled for the Jordan Times by Pat McDonnell



Memorial for the Martyrs" entitled this monumental (1m. x 2 1/2m.) painting by Damascus artist Khalil Akkari, in a travelling exhibit.

(Week of March 15 - 21)

EXHIBITIONS

TURSDAY, March 15: Thirty-five oil and water-colour paintings by Syrian artist Marwan Kassab Bashir will go on view in the Jordan Gallery, third floor of the Damascus National Museum. These works have previously been shown in Baghdad. Artist lives in West Germany.

* More than 35 Syrian artists have contributed works to an exhibition in Al Sha'b Gallery marking the anniversary of the 18 Revolution. Hours: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 4:30 - 8 p.m. daily except Friday.

NDAY, March 17: A new collection of oil and water-colour paintings by Syria's master painter, Dr. Fatch Moudares, will be on view at 6:30 p.m. reception in the Goethe Institute. If you are a newcomer to Damascus, you should make a point of viewing artist's work. The show continues through March 29 in the gallery of the institute.

DAY, March 21: A wide selection of prints depicting the features of Honore Daumier goes on view for 10 days in the French Cultural Centre.

WEDNESDAY: The highly successful one-man show of Naser Khayat ends Tuesday in the French Cultural Centre. The artist has produced architectural illustrations of various structures and features of the Old City with felt pen—a technique which he has developed over the past seven years.

LECTURES

DAY, March 17: "Ugarit and Thought" entitled a lecture to be given at 7 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre by Prof. Bashir al-Jabbar of the Damascus National Museum. His talk will be illustrated by colour slides in Arabic.

SDAY, March 18: "Textstruction" entitled a talk about painting and poetry by Mr. Marc Barthelemy at 7 p.m. in the French Cultural Centre. Mr. Barthelemy is a cultural attaché at the French Embassy in Damascus.

In conjunction with International Theatre Day, an 8 p.m. performance entitled "Aspects of the Development of the Theatre in the Syrian Democratic Republic" will be offered in the GDR Cultural Centre. Mr. Nabil Haffar, assistant editor-in-chief of the journal "Theatre Life", will lead the discussion (in Arabic and German). A documentary film will follow.

WEDNESDAY, March 19: A discussion on films for TV is slated for 8 p.m. in the Cine-Club (in Arabic).

SDAY, March 20: A literary and musical evening entitled "Poetry and Music" is slated for 7 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Arabic).

DAY, March 21: "Techniques Nouvelles de Construction" entitled a discussion and showing of five films dealing with contemporary architecture in France at 8 p.m. in the French Cultural Centre. Three architects—one Syrian and two Frenchmen—will share their views on the spirit of new techniques employing steel, concrete and glass in skyscrapers (in French and Arabic).

ENTERTAINMENT

DAMASCUS MERIDIEN HOTEL is sponsoring a lavish Syrian Festival of food, fashions, handicrafts and entertainment running **MONDAY, March 17**. Such delicacies as *couscous* and *hummus* are being flown in daily by Tunis Air. Nightly entertainment will be offered in the Les Annees Folles Restaurant, where the National Ballet of Tunisia will perform along with renowned Tunisian singers Monia Al Bejaoui and Lotfi Chouk. A fashion extravaganza is slated for 4 p.m. **WEDNESDAY, March 19**, when high fashion designs based on Syrian folk costumes will be presented in the Mutanabbi Room. Throughout the week a wide range of Tunisian handicrafts will be displayed throughout the hotel's lobbies. The festivities will conclude March 24 with a drawing for round-trip tickets for a day in Tunisia.

FILMS

TURSDAY, March 15, MONDAY, March 17, and THURSDAY, March 20: Francois Truffaut's 1964 film, "La Peau Douce," will be shown at the French Cultural Centre. The black and white film deals with social problems encountered in a small town. It stars Jean Desailly, Francoise Dorleac, Nelly Benedetti and Maurice

Gabriel (in French only). Showtime is 7:30 p.m. Saturday and Monday and 8:30 p.m. Thursday.

SUNDAY, March 16: "Beethoven -- Days from His Life" titles a feature film directed by Horst Seemann to be shown at 6:30 p.m. in the German Democratic Republic Cultural Centre. The star is Donatas Banionis (with Arabic sub-titles).

MONDAY, March 17: "Ich will doch nur dass ihr mich liebt," a 1976 film directed by R. W. Fassbinder will be shown at 8 p.m. in the Goethe Institute (in German, with Arabic sub-titles).

* * * "The Lovers" is the title of a feature film to be shown at the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, with Arabic sub-titles).

THURSDAY, March 20: "April Has Thirty Days" entitled a 1979 feature film relating the love story of a girl in the German Democratic Republic and a political emigre from Latin America. It shows at 8 p.m. in the GDR Cultural Centre (in German only).

FRIDAY, March 21: "The Supernatural Present" titles a feature film to be shown at 7 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, with Arabic sub-titles).

If you have items for the Damas-Scene column, please mail them 10 days in advance to Pat McDonnell, P.O. Box 5601, Damascus, or phone them in Damascus to 336-658.

PAT-POURRI

There's still time for interested Damascenes to sign up for Indian cookery classes offered by Mrs. Rinku Singh whose husband is first secretary at the Indian embassy. Her first series of six lessons was a smashing success among wives of the diplomatic community and future dishes will include chapattis, vegetable specialties featuring eggplant and a combination of peas, curry and mushrooms. Other mouth-watering recipes are a curry of meat balls smothered in cream and Indian desserts made of cottage cheese.

Mrs. Singh demonstrates the preparation of each dish for students in her kitchen and, best of all, they get to eat the concoctions after learning how to prepare them. Veterans of her last class praise Mrs. Singh for using only ingredients that are available in Damascus. What's more, she tells her students where hard-to-find items, such as ginger, can be found. Recipes featuring vegetables in season are offered on request.

The class focuses on Punjabi foods, even though Mrs. Singh comes from Darjeeling in the north. The diplomat's wife confesses she didn't know how to cook

before her marriage six years ago, but anyone who has sat at her table will attest to her professional abilities.

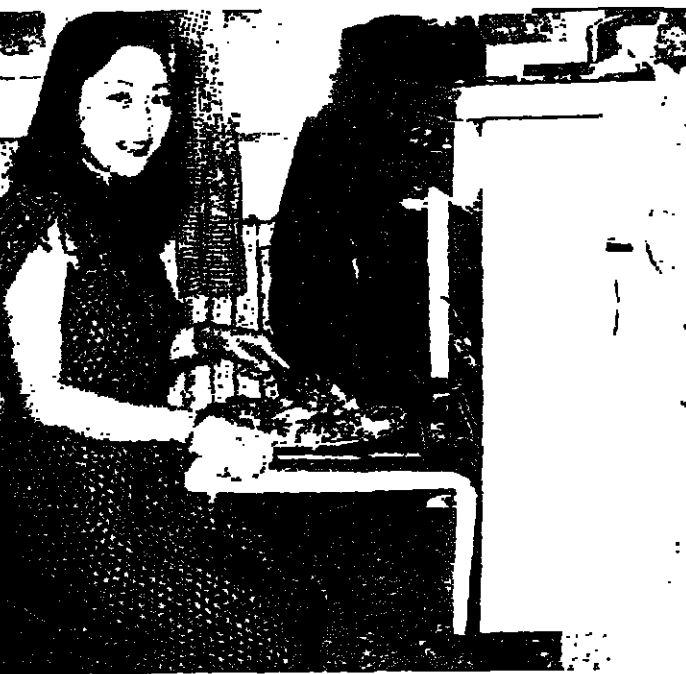
For the benefit of Amman and Damascus readers, she is parting with a few of her secrets which may make cooking easier. She has devised a recipe for tasty yoghurt, offered here:

Pour 2 cups cold water into a pan, add 6 heaping tablespoons of powdered milk and boil. When the mixture is lukewarm, add 1 teaspoon of local yoghurt and 3 tablespoons of lemon juice. Cool, then pour mixture in a bowl. Wrap it in a towel and leave in an unheated oven overnight. Then refrigerate.

When it comes to Indian spices, Mrs. Singh says there is no such thing as a prepared curry powder. Her special curry mixture is prepared this way:

Roast in a flat pan 1 tablespoon coriander seeds and red chilis to taste. Add 1 tablespoon of cumin seed and grind to a fine powder.

Her first lesson in the current series will be Tandoori Chicken. Amman residents can obtain a copy of the recipe by writing to her care of the Indian Embassy in Damascus. Damascenes wishing to enroll in the class should phone her at 717-867.



Mrs. Rinku Singh prepares Tandoori Chicken, a super dish for summer barbecues, at a cooking class in her kitchen.

Syrian director's film on Palestine goes to Baghdad



Still shot of Jerusalem in 1970 from Amin Bunni's documentary on the Palestinian problem, titled "The Road To Peace."

By Pat McDonnell
Special to the Jordan Times

DAMASCUS, March 14 — The Baghdad Film Festival opens Saturday, March 15, and those in the know are placing their bets on Syrian film director Amin Bunni to come out on top in the documentary category.

The quiet young filmmaker has two entries in the 1980 festival both are in-depth studies of the Palestinian problem.

More than two years of research, writing and preparation went into the 45-minute colour documentary, entitled "Palestine, The Roots." "The film is actually in two parts," Mr. Bunni told the Jordan Times. "The first section deals with the geographical area known as Palestine and scientifically discusses the groups of people who have lived there since prehistory."

"The second portion of the film takes an objective view of international law during the first half of the 20th century; it examines the legitimacy of the Balfour Declaration and the violations of international law during the partition of Palestine."

Mr. Bunni admits he proceeded at a leisurely pace in researching international law and travelling through Europe to collect film footage from news agencies for this documentary offering a panoramic view of the Palestinian problem.

Just as he was completing the editing of the first documentary, he was given the opportunity to direct the first privately produced documentary in the Arab World. An advertising and film-making agency, Boraq Co. of Damascus, asked him to produce a political analysis of the Palestinian dilemma beginning with the birth of Zionism.

"It was too good an opportunity," said Mr. Bunni in the film editing room of Boraq Co. In less than six months the 80-minute colour documentary had been produced.

"The Road of Peace" entitled the ambitious documentary, which presents actual photographs, then film clips of the latter years of the Middle East conflict.

The film opens on the first Zionist Congress in 1897 in Basel, Switzerland. Mr. Bunni utilises film clips to portray the British role during the mandate years. Actual film clips of the 1948, 1956, 1967 and 1973 wars illustrate Mr. Bunni's interpretation of the power plays behind these wars. He also has photographic records of the treatment and torture of Arabs under Zionist occupation.

The most topical part of the documentary deals with United States policies in the Middle East leading to the Camp David accords. Mr. Bunni has taken the question "does Camp David lead to peace?" to men in the street throughout the Arab World and Europe. International reactions to the accords are surprisingly similar, be it from a United Nations peacekeeper on the Golan Heights or a villager from Abu Kamal.

The film now is narrated in Arabic, but an English sound track is being prepared.

Mr. Bunni's credits definitely warrant award status at the current festival. Born in Homs in 1945, he studied film and TV direction at a prestigious institute in Paris, and after receiving his degrees in 1967, he stayed there to work on French TV.

He received an award at the Damascus 1972 film festival for his feature film, "To the Last Man," a story based on an actual military engagement in the 1967 war. He received two prizes, at Carthage and Baghdad, for his documentary entitled "Lessons in Civilisations." In 1974, he received the International Peace Council award at Leipzig for his documentary entitled "Kuneitra My Love." At Baghdad in 1978, his documentary "The Long Day" was named the best short film on Palestine.

"I feel as if both new works are telling the story of the Palestinians; more important than the awards they may or may not receive is the impression they will make on viewers seeing them in theatres or on TV in the Arab World — and hopefully in Europe and the U.S.," he said.

People

...in the news

MUSIC LOVERS who were lucky enough to know of the event in advance were treated to an hour-long organ concert by Jordan's internationally known composer, Mr. Youssef Khasho, Sunday evening at St. Joseph's Church in Jabal Amman. The concert was something of a farewell gesture for the composer, who plans to leave soon for his residence in London after having spent a number of months in Amman.

The theme of the musical programme was heavily religious in observance of the Lenten season. Included were works by Handel, Haydn, Mozart and Mendelssohn. Highlights of the concert were renditions of both Bach and Schubert versions of the Ave Maria, played with the accompaniment of resident Jordanian violinist Mr. Fuad Males, and of Mr. Khasho's own composition, "Improvisation upon Gregorian" which had an oriental flavour.

Much thanks for the arrangement of the concert — postponed from the previous Sunday due to the heavy snowstorm — and its appropriately subdued venue, goes to Father Manuel Sawalha, pastor of St. Joseph's.

IN JORDAN FROM "DOWN UNDER" this week was Mr. Robert Hawke, president since 1970 of the Australian Council of Trade Unions — which has 133 affiliated unions. This year Mr. Hawke, a lawyer and former Rhodes scholar, will run for a seat in the Australian House of Representatives. Victory in this election is considered certain, and observers say he is regarded as a future Labour Party leader and a potential prime minister.

Mr. Hawke left today after a private visit with Mr. and Mrs. Raouf Abu Jaber. Last night he spoke to the World Affairs Council on "Australia's (or rather, he said, "An Australian's") View of World Affairs," focusing on recent developments in Southeast Asia, particularly the growing Sino-Japanese friendship initiated after China's "four modernisations" programme.

During his talk, Mr. Hawke noted a similarity between Australia and Jordan: they both have small populations. "We may feel it is a disadvantage because we cannot influence world affairs much," he said; "but on the other hand, if something goes wrong we can always say, because of our small numbers, 'you can't blame us.'"



Syrian film director Amin Bunni (right) on location for filming a documentary.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

It will be partly cloudy, with some rain and westerly moderate winds. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy, with a chance of scattered rain. Winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

U.S. dollar	299.50/301.50
U.K. sterling	668.30/672.30
West German mark	165.70/166.70
Swiss franc	173.50/174.50
French franc	70.80/71.20
Italian lire	
(for every 100)	35.60/35.80
Japanese yen	
(for every 100)	121.00/121.70
Dutch guilder	150.70/151.60
Swedish crown	69.90/70.30
Belgium franc	102.00/102.60

	Overnight	Daytime
low	low	high
Amman	11	13
Aqaba	11	21
Deserts	4	16
Jordan Valley	9	18

CARS FOR SALE

Offered for sale by the method of sealed bids: One 1974 Chevrolet Impala 4-door Sedan, in good condition; and two Chevrolet Corvairs in poor condition. Cars are available for inspection at the American Embassy Warehouse, Wadi Seer Road, Amman, during normal office hours.

Bids will be accepted until 11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 18, 1980.

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Director of Implementation Unit
Ministry of Education
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Zaman underlines Australian squash play

LONDON, March 14 (R)—World champion Geoff Hunt of Australia captured a record-equalling seventh British open squash crown by beating arch rival Omar Zaman of Pakistan 9-3, 9-2, 1-9, 9-1, in a 61-minute final here yesterday. Hunt, 33, matched the seven-title haul of Hashim Khan of Pakistan in the 1950s with a performance which underlined his number one status in the international rankings. It was his fifth consecutive open triumph—he also won in 1969 and 1974—and his third defeat of Zaman in successive finals.

World number two Zaman, 28, was the first to settle in the opening game. But once Hunt was into his stride he collected several winners with accurate drop shots after forcing his opponent to the back of the court. Hunt's stamina and control kept Zaman pinned down again in the second game. The Pakistani enjoyed a brief 2-0 advantage, but Hunt's accuracy forced him into a series of expensive mis-hits while retrieving under pressure.

The Australian was shaping up for a straight games victory, but was clearly unsettled when he was refused a "let" for apparent obstruction by the off-form Zaman at 2-1 in the third game. Hunt got in Zaman's way after receiving service on the next point and was promptly penalised. Zaman capitalised on Hunt's loss of concentration and quickly reeled off the points which put him back into the match. But it was a brief recovery—Hunt blasted Zaman into submission in six minutes in the fourth game.

Zaman said: "I thought I had every chance to win before we went on court, but Hunt was too good for me and did not give me a chance to play my best shots."

American leads in Indian golf tourney

CALCUTTA, India, March 14 (AP)—American professional Kurt Cox grabbed the lead in today's play of the \$40,000 Indian open golf championship. Cox, 27, led the field of 78 international participants after hitting a round of 68 on the second day of the tournament. Cox has a tally of 140.

Two strokes behind was fellow-American Payne Stewart. Taiwan's Lu Hsi-Chuen also shared second place with the 23-year-old Stewart. Last year's winner Gaylor Burrows of the United States failed to make the third round after he returned to a poor score of 160 for the first two days. The cut-off score for Saturday's play was 156.

The tournament opened Thursday and is scheduled to end on Sunday. The Indian championship is the fourth league of the Asian golf circuit.



Algeria to play Ghana in soccer

IBADAN, Nigeria, March 14 (R)—Holders Ghana and all-Africa games champions Algeria are heading for the semifinals of the African nations soccer cup after winning their second fixtures Group Two here yesterday. Ghana Black Stars were made to fight all the way before beating Guinea 1-0. Algeria beat Morocco by the same score in an ill-tempered match watched by 35,000 spectators.

Black Stars scored their goal midway through the second half but Algeria had to wait until injury time. Rough play was common in the North African derby and Morocco had a player sent off the first of the tournament by Tunisian referee Doidi Ali.

In an all out final drive, the Algerians had the Moroccan defenders falling over themselves. Full-back Guendouz went up to centre for Lakhdar Bellouni, who hammered the ball into the net. A Moroccan who could not stand Guendouz's joy reached for him and kicked him in the ribs. As Guendouz went down in agony, the final whistle went.

Black Stars came out full of confidence but found Guinea stronger than they had anticipated. The Guineans mounted sustained pressure that brought them close to scoring in the first half. But the Syli Stars, as Guinea are known in Conakry, allowed Ghana to come into the game in the second half and, thanks to the calmer approach, they scored.

Left-winger Francis Kumi lighted the ball for substitute striker William Kjutse to head home in the 69th minute. Algeria and Ghana lead Group Two, each with three points from two matches. Meanwhile, a committee of the African Football Confederation

will meet to deal with Houcine Bouchkachek, sent off after punching Algerian left-winger Assaad. Referee Ali was a target of furious Moroccan players and officials when he ended the untidy game a few seconds after Algeria had scored, but he had security men on hand to help him out of trouble.

Basketball roundup

NEW YORK, March 14 (AP)—The Indiana Pacers, led by reserve swingman Billy Knight, kept their slim playoff hopes alive by rallying in the second half to beat the New York Knicks 107-100 yesterday night. Indiana is fifth among the clubs scrambling for the final three playoff berths in the National Basketball Association's eastern conference. The victory put San Diego one percentage point ahead of Portland in their fight for the final western conference playoff berth.

"Our feeling is sky high" said centre James Edwards, Indiana's 7-footer who nailed down the victory with a pair of baskets in the final 2:09. "We think we can win all our remaining games."

That would be more than enough to assure a playoff spot, since the other clubs in the running—New York, Houston, Washington, San Antonio—seem to stumble every time it looks as if they're getting something going. San Antonio recently lost eight in a row, while Washington dropped a 26-point decision at home to New Jersey and the Knicks blew their big chance yesterday night.

In the only other game played yesterday night, the San Diego Clippers beat the Denver Nuggets 116-102. Lloyd Free scored 26 points and Swen Nater had 22 points and 21 rebounds as San Diego won despite the absence of Bill Walton because of a foot injury and Sidney Wicks because of a severe cold. The game was tied 61-61 with just under eight minutes to play in the third quarter when the Clippers on a 24-10 tear to take command.

Russia improves industrial output

MOSCOW, March 14 (AP)—Soviet industrial output rallied in the first two months of 1980 following overall output last year that fell well below planned levels, official statistics indicated today. The Central Statistical Board said output rose by 6.3 per cent in Jan. and Feb. 1980 compared to the same period in 1979. The first quarter of 1979 was one of the most difficult in Soviet post-war history, with production growth then of 3 per cent over 1978.

Boosting performance in Jan. and Feb. this year were high output levels of computers, computer parts and mineral fertilizers, the statistics showed. Output of locomotives and freight cars for the nation's troubled railroad sector were below the levels of Jan. and Feb. 1979, as were production of animal fat and vegetable oil.

Soviet industrial output rose 3.4 per cent overall last year compared to 1978, well short of a planned rise of 5.7 per cent. The growth target this year is 4.5 per cent over 1979 levels.

Britain records highest rate of inflation

LONDON, March 14 (Agencies)—Inflation has risen to 19.1 per cent annually in Britain, the government announced today. Inflation in Britain is now back to the levels of four years ago and is a major cause of a slump in popularity of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's 10-month-old Conservative government. This was underlined at a by-election at Southend yesterday showing a 12.9 per cent swing to the Labour opposition since the May 1979 general election. In the same period inflation has doubled.

Latest public opinion polls show most Britons are dissatisfied with Mrs. Thatcher and think economic conditions will worsen. Mrs. Thatcher's ministers say it will take time and patience to conquer inflation and have rejected state control of wages in favour of spending cuts and tight control of money supply.

In his March 26 budget, Sir Geoffrey Howe is expected to intensify the government's drive to whittle down state borrowing and to check the growth of the amount of money in the economy. However, with more price increases in the pipeline under Mrs. Thatcher's economic policies, analysts predicted the rate would soon top 20 per cent. This compares with current rates of 13.9 per cent in the United States, 12.9 in France, 5 per cent in West Germany, 6.6 in Japan and 18.8 in Italy.

The cost of living soared by 1.4 per cent in Feb. alone, mainly due to more costly oil products, mortgages, postage, telephone service and school meals, the department of employment said.

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Lot airliner crash kills 87 including U.S. boxing team

WARSAW, March 14 (AP)—A Polish Jetliner on a flight from New York and Montreal crashed Friday during its approach to Okecie international airport, and state radio said all 87 persons aboard were believed killed.

The Ilyushin 62, with 77 passengers and a crew of 10, crashed in to an old Czarist-era fort about four kilometres from the runway in clear, sunny weather.

Witness Stanislaw Wilkzur, 32, told the Associated Press he heard what seemed to be an explosion in one of the engines seconds before the crash.

The crash occurred in a densely populated area south of the Polish capital, but there was no word on casualties on the ground.

According to witnesses, the

plane started to dive from the height about 100 metres and slammed into the earthen wall of a fort built by Russians in the 19th century. Wreckage was scattered over the ice of what had once been the fort's moat.

Police and troops sealed off the crash site, which is used as a military firing range.

"It is a terrible mess and nobody survived," a policeman told a correspondent as he tried to enter the area.

Witness Karolina Lubienka.

32, said she was in her garden pruning trees when she saw the approaching plane.

"It was no wonder as there were dozens of them flying over my house every day," she said. "Then suddenly I heard an explosion and the plane—without catching fire—hit the wall of the fort and then ran into the centre of the fort behind the wall. The help was instant from the soldiers who were inside the fort."

A western resident said there were unconfirmed reports that the plane may have exploded a few hundred feet above ground as it made the approach.

In New York a U.S. amateur boxing official said at least 23 Americans, including 14 boxers and six support people on an amateur American boxing team, were among the 87 people who died in the crash.

The boxers were members of a national Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) team that had been scheduled to fight the Polish national boxing team in matches March 16 and 18, according to Mr. Bob Serkin, chairman of the AAU's boxing committee.

Mr. Serkin said the American contingent included 14 boxers, ranging in age from 17 to 24, and six support people—doctors, referees and coaches.

Christopher Resich, assistant general manager of Lot in New York, said the plane—flight number Lo-007, carrying the boxing team members—left New York's John F. Kennedy international airport at 9:16 p.m. local, last night (0216GMT Friday) after a two-hour delay because of a snow storm.

It was due to arrive at 11:06 a.m. Warsaw time.

Mr. Resich said that the plane was a direct flight from New York to Warsaw and had not stopped at Montreal as had been previously reported.

Among the team members reportedly aboard was Tom "Sarge" Johnson of Indianapolis, former trainer of the 1976 American Olympic team, which won five gold medals.



Convicted sex slayer John Gacy pictured dressed as a clown when he used to entertain children at charitable functions in the Chicago area. (Gamma photo)

U.S. sex killer sentenced to death

CHICAGO, March 14 (AP)—The victims' relatives and friends cheered and applauded as John W. Gacy Jr. was sentenced to die in the electric chair for the sex slayings of 12 young men and boys. But it was only the beginning of another legal battle for the 37-year-old contractor.

"We talked to Mr. Gacy afterwards about round one," said one of Mr. Gacy's two attorneys, Mr. Robert Motta. The other, Mr. Sam Amante, added: "We are now getting ready for round two—appeals."

Circuit court judge Louis B. Garipio on yesterday set June 2 for the execution of Mr. Gacy, convicted of murdering 33 young men and boys. An appeal to the Illinois supreme court is automatic with imposition of the death sentence.

The same jurors who debated 1 hour and 50 minutes to find Mr. Gacy guilty deliberated 2 hours and 15 minutes before choosing the death penalty. Judge Garipio denied a defence request for a new jury to sentence Mr. Gacy.

Burst of applause

When the court clerk read the verdict, there was a burst of applause and cheers from the spectators. It was quickly subdued by guards.

"No one enjoys it," said juror

Dean Johnson as he left the court room. "We had to do it. The facts were there."

Judge Garipio's voice cracked as he thanked the jurors who had been sequestered throughout the five-week trial.

"I don't know what this trial cost," he told them. "Whatever the cost, it was a small price. My voice is cracking because I really feel it's a small price to pay for our freedom. What we do for the John Gacy of this world we will do for everyone."

Mr. Gacy, a former remodeling contractor, sat without expression as the jury's vote was read. After the sentencing, Mr. Gacy congratulated chief prosecutor Mr. William Kunkle Jr. and said he held no hard feelings.

Prosecutors argued during the hearing that Mr. Gacy was an "anti-social personality who would continue to kill."

"Rid of a monster"

"I'm thoroughly pleased with the verdict and I think it will help society to get rid of a monster like him," said Mr. Harold Priest, father of Mr. Gacy's final victim, 15-year-old Robert. Said John Gudzik, father of another victim, who heard about the verdict on television: "I'd probably kill him myself — with my bare hands — if I'd been there."

Mr. Gacy was eligible for the death penalty because 12 of the murders, which took place from 1972 to 1978, came after the state's death penalty law took effect in 1977. He also qualified by having committed a murder while taking indecent liberties with a minor and deviate sexual assault, both against the Priest boy.

Twenty-six of Mr. Gacy's victims were found buried under his house northwest of Chicago and three others elsewhere on his property. Four bodies were recovered from nearby rivers.

Mr. Gacy joins 20 men in Illinois awaiting execution. The last execution in the state was in 1962.

Mr. Amante said he was relieved the case was over but added, "now we got to the Illinois supreme court and I have the weight of it on my shoulders again."

Holding U.S. hostages makes Iran weak, Bani-Sadr says

PARIS, March 14 (R)—Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr said in an interview published today that the continued detention of the United States embassy hostages was a source of weakness rather than a trump card for Iran.

Interviewed by the Tehran correspondent of the daily newspaper Le Figaro, President Bani-Sadr said he hoped the Iranian people as a whole would agree with him that Iran could not forfeit international sympathy by keeping the hostages.

Speaking on the eve of the first round of parliamentary elections, Mr. Bani-Sadr described the departure of the United Nations commission, which might have helped solve the hostage crisis, as a missed opportunity, and he hoped it would return and resume its work.

The five-man commission was supposed to have seen all the hostages before issuing a report on its investigation of the deposed Shah. The commission left last week after Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini refused to allow it to visit all the 49 hostages who have been detained since November 4.

President Bani-Sadr said: "For me, the detention of the American hostages is not a trump card for Iran. It even constitutes a weakness, because it prevents us from acting at the international level to create a climate allowing us to pursue a policy of national independence with Europe and all countries which are not under the

influence of super-power."

The Iranian president continued: "One cannot lose the sympathy of humanity by keeping the American hostages."

"Public opinion is evolving, and by far the majority in Iran has understood my reasoning on this point. I hope the people as a whole will agree that I am right."

The Figaro report said Mr. Bani-Sadr showed discouragement in discussing the achievements of the U.N. commission.

Although there had been a

proper study of the former Shah's actions and American involvement in Iran positions on both the Iranian and American sides were the same as at the start, the correspondent wrote.

The report said the Iranian president was evasive when asked about prospects for a resumption of dialogue with the United States, describing it as a matter for the foreign minister and then parliament. Mr. Bani-Sadr said: "We will have to see how the new parliament is made up."



Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr

Gold plunges to \$500 an ounce, market in shock

LONDON, March 14 (R)—The price of gold today plunged on bullion markets described as being in a state of shock, while the dollar gained more strength as dealers hoped for a strong anti-inflation package tonight from President Carter.

Gold was down to just over \$500 an ounce, its lowest level since the end of last year. Other precious metals also dropped sharply.

The great gold rush which marked the turn of the decade has given way to falling metal prices mainly because of record high interest rates in the United States

which have made the dollar attractive investment.

Yesterday major American banks pushed basic lending to fresh record level of 18.25 per cent, a harsh squeeze on credit, an even better return for an investor.

Later, President Carter announced far-reaching measures to combat rising U.S. inflation. The markets have been swayed these for days, but some thought the dollar's strength comes more from the high interest rates than anything else.

The rising dollar is forcing European authorities to defend their own currencies and their own interest rates up. The West German central bank (Bundesbank) today intervened heavily on the markets to defend the mark which fell sharply against the dollar.

The bank sold \$125 million of the mark to 1.8385 dollar in Frankfurt, compared with yesterday's \$2.2225. Gold traded on the London market today at around \$500 an ounce after dropping to \$501.00 yesterday. It had been at \$554.50.

Dealers said the pound remained steady against the dollar, but other major currencies against the dollar it fell to \$2.22 from yesterday's \$2.2225.

Gold traded on the London market today at around \$500 an ounce after dropping to \$501.00 yesterday. It had been at \$554.50.

Dealers reported highly volatile trading. One said the market was in a state of shock because gold's fall.

Its levels are far from January record of \$875 an ounce, but people had fled from paper currencies to metals in fear of widespread inflation and political tension.

Platinum today plunged to an ounce from yesterday's \$3 Silver dropped to around \$26 an ounce from yesterday's \$26.

Hostage talks in Colombia at 'standoff'

BOGOTA, March 14 (AP)—Negotiations for the release of the hostages in the Dominican Republic's embassy were at an apparent standoff today, as the Colombian government and the M-19 guerrillas stuck to their fundamental positions.

"We will win or die," the guerrillas' angry negotiator shouted to reporters as she walked away from the fifth bargaining session in a panel truck parked outside the embassy yesterday.

Today was the 17th day of captivity for U.S. ambassador Diego Asencio, 18 other diplomats and an undetermined number of other persons taken prisoner when some 30 leftist guerrillas invaded a reception at the embassy on Feb. 27.

The guerrillas' chief demand now is for the release of jailed leftists including 215 members of their organisation held on such charges as rebellion, bank robbery, raiding and army arsenal, kidnapping officials and killing police and business leaders.

Woman first to receive Einstein peace award

UNITED NATIONS, March 14 (Agencies)—Alva Myrdal, Sweden's former minister for disarmament, yesterday was named the first recipient of the \$50,000 Albert Einstein peace award.

Mrs. Myrdal, 78, was cited at a ceremony here for "valiant efforts to convince the citizenry of the world that if significant control policies are not achieved soon, the mounting dangers of war are of cataclysmic dimension."

Mrs. Myrdal was cited for 40 years of striving for arms control. The prize citation declared: "In her prolific writing and activities on behalf of social justice, women's rights, peace and disarmament, Alva Myrdal has made an indelible impression on the thinking of this second half of the 20th century."



Mrs. Rosalynn Carter

Fire forces Mrs. Carter, in nightgown, to flee hotel

WICHITA, Kansas, March 14 (AP)—First lady Rosalynn Carter was forced to flee a Wichita hotel early today dressed in her nightgown and robe after fire broke out in an adjacent bank.

The president's wife and about 145 other guests were evacuated from the Royale Hotel shortly after the fire was discovered about 4 a.m. (0800 GMT) in the Kansas State Bank and Trust Co. building, police said.

The fire was discovered in an employees' lounge on the seventh floor of the bank building. Hotel spokesman said the bank and hotel share common elevators, fire escapes and ventilation systems.

Mrs. Carter, dressed in her

nightgown and robe, and her party were taken to another hotel nearby for temporary shelter.

Police said the cause of the fire was not immediately known. There did not immediately appear to be anything suspicious about the cause of the fire. "Our arson squad and laboratory are looking into it, but that's just routine," the police said.

Filipino muslims celebrate their 600th year of Islam

MANILA, March 14 (R)—Muslims in the largely Christian Philippines today began year-long celebrations of the 600th anniversary of the arrival of Islam in the country, against a background of incipient unrest among members of the minority community in the far south.

Special prayers were being said in mosques, including the relatively new mosque in Manila where only 25 years ago no muslim services were held, due to the strong Christian influence introduced by Spanish missionaries 200 years after Islam.

There are now between two to four million Muslims in a population of some 48 million Filipinos. The majority live in the far southwest on Mindanao and nearby islands where segments of

the community have waged a sporadic secessionist revolt for the past eight years resulting in some 50,000 deaths.

The Philippines is formally a secular state, in which Muslims have freedom of worship and are allowed to follow Islamic laws on such matters as divorce which is not available to the rest of the mainly Roman Catholic population.

Many Muslims however, have complained that they have not had enough say in their own affairs in the south, and express concern about increasing Christian inroads in their regions.

By Nicholas Moore

Already the total production of the 13 OPEC nations has fallen. In January it had dropped by a million barrels a day and will probably turn out to have been even lower in February when production fell in Iran.

And output from OPEC could slump even further in April if Saudi Arabia decides to stop the production of an additional million barrels a day it is now exporting.

Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporting country, raised its daily production from 8.5 to 9.5 million barrels last year to help ease the critical worldwide shortage which followed Iran's revolution.

Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani announced this week the Riyadh government would make an early decision whether to maintain the extra production after April 1.

Kuwait has already announced plans to cut its daily production ceiling of two million barrels by 500,000 barrels from the beginning of next month while Venezuela and the United Arab Emirates plan smaller cuts.

Saudi Arabia has said it will do nothing that is likely to disrupt world oil supplies — not that any

Oil prices to rise again?

Oil prices could rise again later this year following production cuts, already beginning, by the world's major exporting nations, according to oil industry analysts.

imminent shortage threatens because industrial countries' stocks are at record levels.

Sheikh Yamani has estimated present stocks at around five billion barrels, stored in tanks, tankers, caverns and salt domes, enough to last the world three months at current consumption rates.

But if no supply crisis is yet in sight, the balance between supply and demand will be tight and "by mid-1980 price pressures will be building up again," London brokers Grieverson, Grant and Co. said.

The brokers estimated the 1980 average daily OPEC production would be 1.6 to two million barrels less than the 1979 figure of around 30.5 million barrels.

Demand for OPEC oil, the United States energy department predicts, is likely to be around 29 million barrels a day.

But uncertainties exist. Iran, for instance, has said it aims to produce three to 3.5 million barrels daily. According to official figures

production has dropped to 2.7 million and diplomats have put it as low as two million.

Oil Minister Ali Akbar Moinefar has confirmed that, in the last month, Iran exported only 1.7 million barrels a day.

Diplomats in Tehran said they believed that lack of spare parts had contributed to lower Iranian output and that it would be difficult to increase production even if the government wished to.

Most spares needed for Iran's oil sector are subject to the U.S. embargo imposed because of the embassy hostage crisis.

Besides curbing output, OPEC states are tending to contract to sell less of their crude oil to the major international oil companies.

In a radical change in the pattern of world oil trading, they are selling more crude to smaller independent companies, to state oil corporations and in government-to-government deals rather than to the "majors."

They are also selling more on the "spot" market where oil not covered by contract terms is freely traded, at higher than official "marker" prices.

A recent report made internally within one of the seven major oil companies said that four years ago they bought 17 to 18 million barrels daily direct from OPEC. This year they expect to buy only about 12 million, less than two-thirds of their needs.

Kuwait, for instance, is expected to make three companies — Royal Dutch Shell, Gulf Oil Corporation and British Petroleum (BP) — bear the brunt of its 25 per cent 1980 production cut.

According to Sheikh Yamani, the Saudi state corporation, Petroleum, itself exported 1.4 million barrels daily last year and has concluded 15 government-to-government deals.

Gulf expects its total foreign crude supply after April 1 might be less than half what was avail-

able to the company in 1979. Executives of the major companies argue that diminishing access to contract crude for global, integrated operations through which supplies are switched around the world, make managing any future crisis more difficult.

OPEC states, for their part, seek a greater say in the distribution of their oil and role in "downstream" refining, shipping and petrochemical activities undertaken by the companies.

"I believe that one way of tributing to the stability of market would be through involvement of the producer in the integrated system, by allowing a more equitable sharing in ownership and control of downstream operations," OPEC secretary General Rene Omidi last month.

Indicative of deals intended change this was agreement month between Mobil and Aramco, part of which was agreement to Saudi crude was according to the scale of investment in the Yanbu refinery and petrochemical complex Red Sea.

REUTERS

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